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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, INTELLIGENCE DIVISION
War Department General Staff
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Subject: German Military Document Section and Special Document Section, Intelligence Division, WDGS.

Reference: a. Memo for Director of Central Intelligence, same subject, from Military Intelligence Division, WDGS, dated 25 October 1946.

1. Reference subject memorandum, your proposal that the CIG take over the German Military Document Section and Special Document Section, including their library and document exploitation responsibilities, has been carefully studied.

2. This is to inform you that:

a. CIG accepts in principle the mission of exploitation of foreign documents returned by the theaters for the purpose of obtaining intelligence required by the CIG and the interested departmental agencies.

b. CIG is willing to take over the document exploitation responsibilities of the SDS and to accept the transfer of the forty-four civilians now employed at SDS as of 1 June 1947 under the conditions listed in Paragraph 3 below.

c. CIG agrees to take over the document screening and intelligence functions now performed by GMDS, but finds it impossible to accept the library functions of that section for the following reasons:

(1) CIG does not have at present nor in the foreseeable future the space requirement to establish a precedent of being the permanent repository for large quantities of captured documents.

(2) Under the provisions of JCS 950/15 of 13 August '46 "Captured German records presently held by the War or Navy Department will be retained in the files of the Department now having custody of them."

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(1) The needs of member agencies for such documents be given priority over the requests of other agencies.

(2) The documents continue to be easily available to CIG (SDS) for exploitation.

(3) Documents received from the European theater after the transfer of GMDS to the Adjutant General are accessible to CIG for intelligence screening.

9. In respect to the intelligence functions of GMDS, CIG will include the GMDS Intelligence Catalogue in its Central Reference File and will continue to be open to suggestions by the agencies for the coordination and better handling of captured foreign documents. The transfer of the actual custody of such documents to the Adjutant General will, however, make the material more easily available to such interested WD agencies as the Historical Division, and will facilitate the use of documents for non-intelligence activities.

3. Owing to budgetary and other considerations, the acceptance by CIG of the intelligence commitments of GADS and of SDS as an operating unit on 1 June 1947 is contingent upon the following conditions:

a. SDS be permitted to retain present office and quarters space and other facilities at Camp Holabird until 1 July 1947.

b. All card files, indexes and other like material necessary for the continued operation of the sections be included in the transfer.

e. CIG be permitted to retain on a loan basis from the Intelligence Division, WDGS, at least two officers (one of whom should be [redacted] new on duty with SDS, and one officer from QMDS for sufficient period to permit training of civilian replacements. (An alternate solution would be authority for CIG to introduce into SDS at once two persons to understudy these officers.)

d. CIG will employ as of 1 June 1947 as many of the civilian personnel now on duty at SDS and CSDS as its funds will permit.

e. Transfers of civilian personnel by the War Department to or from the sections between present date and 1 June 1947 will be subject to CIG consent.

f. CIG be authorized to commence appropriate CIG security clearance of this personnel as soon as action on appropriations assures availability of funds for their employment.

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4. If the reply to your proposal as shown in paragraph 2 is accepted, CIG will direct its Assistant Director for Operations to carry out the details of transfer of SDS and to insure that it is accomplished smoothly and with minimum interference to the continuity of its exploitation activities. The Assistant Director will also arrange for the assumption of certain of the functions and personnel of CMDS. Upon the implementation of this agreement, CIG will undertake to meet the requirements of the Intelligence Division and the other departmental intelligence agencies, and will make every effort to fulfill their needs in the field of document exploitation.

5. Request your concurrence or comment on this proposed plan as soon as practicable.

ROBERT S. VENTNINEG
Lieutenant General, USA
Director of Central Intelligence

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